

Message Text

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ACTION INR-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 CIAE-00 EUR-12 /028 W

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P R 121125Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

TO AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY

SECSTATE WASHDC 8697

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KINSHASA 5861

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINR, CG, IT

SUBJECT: BIO INFORMATION -- ZAIRE'S AMBASSADOR ILEKA MBOYO

REF: ROME 11118

1. ILEKA MBOYO (BORN PIERRE ILEKA) IS GENERALLY REGARDED AS ONE OF ZIARE'S ABLEST DIPLOMATS. HE SERVED AS AMBASSADOR TO THE UNITED STATES FROM 1970 TO 1972, AND IS A STAUNCH FRIEND OF THE US. THOSE AMERICANS WHO HAVE DEALT WITH HIM DESCRIBE HIM AS VERY HARD-WORKING, PERCEPTIVE, FLEXIBLE, AMUSING, AND INVARIABLY COOPERATIVE. HE HAS ALSO SERVED AS FIRST COUNSELOR IN ROME (1963-64), SECRETARY-GENERAL IN FOREIGN OFFICE, AMBASSADOR TO SENEGAL (1965-1970), DIRECTOR-GENERAL (NUMBER-TWO SLOT) OF DEPARTMENT FOREIGN AFFAIRS (UNTIL 1973), AND AMBASSADOR TO INDIA (NAMED IN LATE 1973).
2. A MEMBER OF MONGO TRIBE FROM EQUATEUR PROVINCE (HOME OF PRESIDENT MOBUTU), ILEKA WAS BORN IN 1927 AND EDUCATED MOSTLY IN ZAIRE. HE SPENT ONE YEAR AT INSTITUT DE HAUTE ETUDES IN GENEVA, AND WENT TO US ON ICA GRANT AS MEMBER OF ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGEMENT TEAM IN 1960. HE IS MARRIED AND HAS SEVERAL CHILDREN.
3. ILEKA SEEMS TO HAVE SUFFERED LOSS OF INFLUENCE AFTER BEING CLOSE TO POWER CENTERS IN 60'S AND EARLY 70'S. IT IS SAID THAT IN 1973 HE HAD A RUN-IN WITH THE FORMER AND RECENTLY RE-APPOINTED FOREIGN MINISTER NGUZA, WHICH LED TO HIS DISMISSAL AS DIRECTOR-GENERAL. HOWEVER, HE SEEMS TO BE BACK IN FAVOR AT THE MOMENT.

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Message Attributes

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